



## Adopt-a-Spot Revitalization Initiative

### An NELCDC-Habitat for Humanity-LUNA Partnership

The NELCDC and Habitat for Humanity kicked off the Adopt-a-Spot revitalization initiative in the Dunbar-Manhattan Heights neighborhood on October 17, 2015. The effort began in spring 2014. A big cleanup got underway to help beautify the neighborhood surrounding Joan Ervin Elementary. The NELCDC requested \$8,500 for rehab materials in its approved budget to complete the home repairs and \$4,500 for food, supplies, marketing, the facility rentals, etc. These funds were used to reinvigorate excitement and surge forward towards the completion of the first revitalization pilot project for this new program.

Since the beginning, NELCDC, Habitat, and LUNA believed the partnership was ideal and together, we could make a profound impact on Lubbock neighborhoods. For this Adopt-a-Spot effort as well as all future projects to come, the NELCDC will develop, implement, and facilitate all project coordination; Habitat will provide guidance and leadership in the area of builder expertise and volunteer coordination; and LUNA will provide its support and expertise in neighborhood involvement, citizen communication efforts, and community organization! We truly are better together!

The homeowners were overjoyed to see this project pick back up. We started with scraping and priming, tree trimming, and yard clean up on October 17; but that was just a start. On October 21, the Adopt-a-Spot team (NELCDC, Habitat, LUNA, Lowe's, and the volunteer crew leaders) met to debrief, identify areas where we could improve and plan for project completion. We hope to have the three homes started on October 17 completed by the end of the year. There are also other homes on the rehab list and those projects will commence this fall as well. Although the process is being developed and refined as we go, I hope those of you reading this will agree as shown in the pictures below, this is a fantastic program that really makes a difference.

#### Some Quick Facts:

According to [grantspace.org](http://grantspace.org) and [www.independentsector.org/volunteer\\_time](http://www.independentsector.org/volunteer_time) a volunteer's time is currently valued at \$23.07/hour. That means if we quantify the 95 volunteers that signed in on Saturday morning, working from 8am-12pm (380 hours) leveraged \$8,766.60 for the Dunbar-Manhattan Heights neighborhood. Since some volunteer left due to an abundance of volunteers trying to work on three houses, we actually ended with around 70 people by the end of the service day; so overall, we most likely leveraged \$6,459.60 in labor costs in addition to the materials and tools that were rented and/or purchased to make the project happen. That is a great start for a new program! As our coordination improves, so will our impact! Onward and Upward, team!

In the future, we will work to have a zero waste project by eliminating the need or use of water bottles and by composting what we can. We will also begin weighing all trash and landscape debris to really quantify the amount of impact each project has on a neighborhood (how much refuse are we taking out)!

The Partnership would like to thank the City of Lubbock for providing the resources to make this wonderful community impact initiative happen (Code Enforcement, Community Development, Keep Lubbock Beautiful, and Solid Waste to name a few). We'd also like to thank LISD, Lowe's, Papa John's as well as all volunteer groups for their support in making this happen. Last but not least, we'd like to thank the NELCDC, Habitat, and LUNA Board of Directors for their ongoing support. **See pictures below! Video testimonials are coming soon on the NELCDC website!**



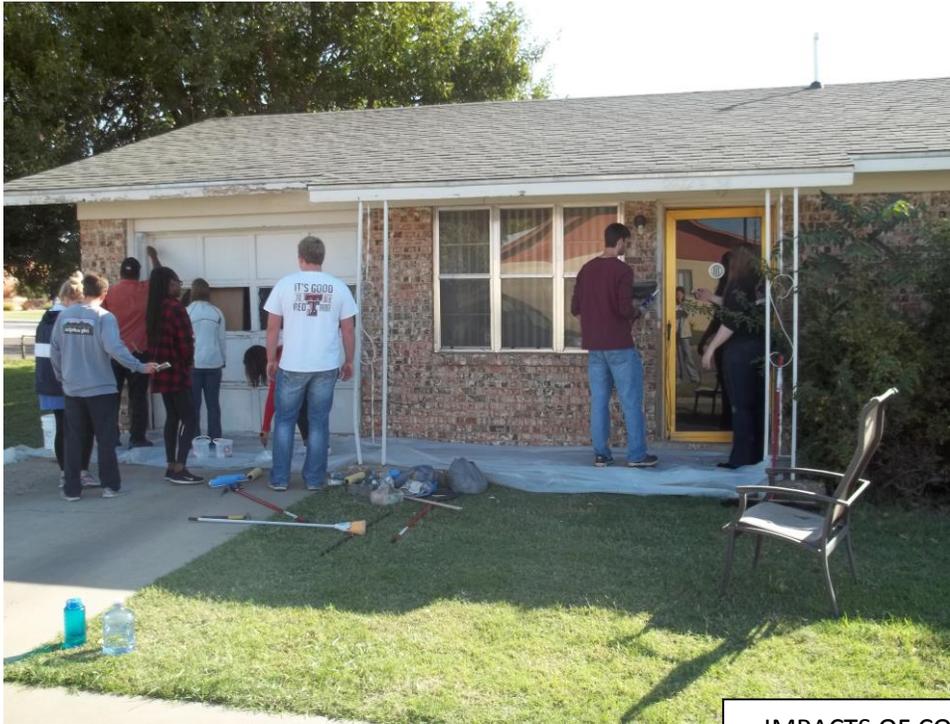
Early Morning Volunteer Group Picture



Safety Meeting in the Cafeteria



Early Morning Volunteer Group Picture



IMPACTS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE!

